

They were introducing, by groups, the candidates for degrees. The arrival of the President of the University of Southern California and his party received the appropriate handclapping. The introduction of those for honorary degrees received similar recognition. The doctors of philosophy received the same. When the Dean of the Medical School asked that the candidates for the Degree of Medicine rise, there was a spontaneous roar of applause that was almost startling. With probably about fifteen thousand spectators in the stadium, it was as though a famous athlete was about to enter the game or as though a close game had just been decided by a touchdown. The applause was so remarkable that even the members of the class turned to see what had happened. As a member of the audience, I thought for a moment something that I had not seen was going on. The young graduates, in a talk with them after the exercises were over, were quite astounded by the ovation.

I have no explanation for this other than the thought that the public at this time of war stress is more appreciative of such types of trained men. Maybe there has been a distinct turn in the trend of public opinion in our community. Would it not be interesting to learn whether similar such phenomena occurred in other similar exercises in this State. It was so in contrast to other such occasions which I have attended here that I thought it worthy of bringing it to your attention.

Fraternally yours,
H. W. SPIERS, M. D.

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(COPY)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Medical School, The Medical Center
June 20, 1940.

To the Editor:—Thanks a lot for your note of June 17, giving me the opportunity to read Doctor Spiers' letter of June 13 regarding the applause at the Commencement Exercises of the University of Southern California when the medical graduates came forward to receive their degrees. For several years we have noted the tendency toward the same sort of enthusiastic response at the University of California Commencement Exercises in Berkeley. I think it reflects a bit the appreciation of the public of the physicians' unselfish devotion to human welfare and the ideals of the medical profession in holding human welfare above the more personal selfish interests of the doctor himself. . . .

Faithfully yours,
CHAUNCEY D. LEAKE.

Subject: A Proposed "Non-Medical Practice" Act for California.

(COPY)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL STANDARDS
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
San Francisco, California,
June 18, 1940.

Re: Non-Medical Practice Act

To the Editor:—We were recently informed that Dr. J. Theo. Hollie, Chairman of the California Natural Healing Arts Association, 638 West Fortieth Place, Los Angeles, had requested the Attorney-General to prepare a title for an amended draft of a proposed initiative measure, designated "Non-Medical Practice Act."

The title as submitted by the Attorney-General is as follows:

"Non-Medical Healing Arts. Initiative. Creates Board of Non-Medical Examiners with jurisdiction over prac-

tioners of, and schools teaching, massage, physiotherapy, herbology, naturopathy, minor surgery, and obstetrics as defined in Act. Prescribes Board's qualifications, powers, duties, and compensation. Exempts employees from civil service. Requires examination of applicants; prescribes educational and other qualifications of licentiates, grounds for issuance and revocation of licenses. Accords licentiates all rights and privileges granted physicians, without discrimination, including access to all institutions supported by public funds. Requires State officials accept reports and certificates filed by licentiates. Defines unlawful practice, specifying penalties and disposition of moneys received from violations."

The Attorney-General is reported to have advised that the circulation title and summary prepared for a similar measure on December 14, 1939, is to be disregarded.

The above for whatever interest may be attached.

Very truly yours,

C. B. PINKHAM, M. D.,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Subject: Medical Defense Brochure of the California Medical Association.

(COPY)

SALMONS AND WOLCOTT Co.*
San Diego, California,
June 14, 1940.

Dr. George H. Kress
Secretary, California Medical Association
450 Sutter Street
San Francisco, California
Dear Doctor Kress:

We thank you very much for the three copies of the Medical Defense Brochure. We think it is wonderful, and we enclose a copy of the letter we are sending Dr. F. E. Toomey, Secretary of the Medical Advisory Committee of the San Diego County Medical Society, concerning same.

You may be interested in reading some of the letters that we have sent out to the San Diego County Medical Society members from time to time, as they bring out some of the same thoughts.

Several years ago we gave the information here regarding the so-called New Haven Plan, and since then we have continued to do whatever we could on preventive work. We are glad to report that we are securing better coöperation and results.

San Diego Trust and Savings Building.

Very truly yours,

SALMONS AND WOLCOTT Co.
(Signed) Paul Wolcott.

✓ ✓ ✓

(COPY)

June 14, 1940.

Re: Malpractice Insurance

Dear Doctor Toomey:

We have just been privileged to read the Brochure on Medical Defense compiled by the Committee on Public Relations of the California Medical Association.

If all of your members have not yet received their copies, we assume they will shortly, and our thought in writing you is for you through the Bulletin, or whatever means possible, to impress upon your members the importance of most carefully reading this Brochure. It is marvelous, in our opinion, and most instructive, and should be re-read from time to time. It seems to us to be most beneficial for all members to make it a practice to read this every month.

Very truly yours,

SALMONS AND WOLCOTT Co.

* This firm has been handling the blanket medical defense coverage for the San Diego County Medical Society.